

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 04420 250726Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 IO-14 ICA-20 /045 W
-----104788 250732Z /13
O 250456Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3096
INFO NEW YORK RECEPTION CENTER

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 4420

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT (PARA 4)

STATE FOR NEA/INS PERCIVAL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP
SUBJECT: VISIT OF MINISTER OF TOURISM HARKHA GURUNG TO US

1. DR. GURUNG, MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM,
DEPARTED KATHMANDU AUGUST 24 TO LEAD NEPALESE
DELEGATION TO FORTHCOMING UN CONFERENCE ON
TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN BUENOS AIRES, FOLLOWING WHICH HE WILL RETURN
TO NEPAL VIA PACIFIC. DURING HIS TRAVELS HE WILL
BE TRANSITTING US BRIEFLY AS FOLLOWS:
ARRIVE NEW YORK 1335 HOURS AUGUST 27 ON PA 101
FROM LONDON AND DEPART 2030 HOURS AUGUST 28 TO
BUENOS AIRES. AFTER CONFERENCE, GURUNG ARRIVES
LOS ANGELES 0645 HOURS SEPTEMBER 13 ON BN 920
FROM BUENOS AIRES AND LIMA AND DEPARTS 0845 HOURS
SEPTEMBER 14 FOR TOKYO.

2. GURUNG'S NEW YORK PROGRAM IS UNDER CONTROL
BUT HE WOULD APPRECIATE HELP IN LOS ANGELES
FOR SIGHTSEEING DURING 24 HOUR STOP-OVER THERE. GURUNG
IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO
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EMBASSY AND TO MANY AMERICANS WHO HAVE SERVED
HERE IN PAST. HE IS FRIENDLY AND LIKABLE, IS
INTERESTED IN SPORTS AND IS AN AVID TENNIS
PLAYER. AS MINISTER OF TOURISM HE IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS TO
NEPAL AND IN GRANTING APPROVAL FOR THEM.

3. ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) REGRET DELAY IN NOTIFYING YOU BUT WOULD APPRECIATE APPROPRIATE COURTESIES BE EXTENDED TO GURUNG ON ARRIVAL NEW YORK FROM LONDON AND LATER IN LOS ANGELES.

(B) GURUNG, WHO CAN BE REACHED AT NEPALESE DELEGATION TO UN, IS ANXIOUS TO PHONE CARTER IDE FORMER AID DIRECTOR IN NEPAL. LATEST INFORMATION WE HAVE IS THAT IDE IS DETAILED FROM AID TO NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE FACULTY. PLEASE ASK IDE TO CALL GURUNG, ALTERNATIVELY GURUNG WILL CALL YOU FOR IDE'S HOME PHONE NUMBER.

(C) IN LOS ANGELES IN ADDITION TO SIGHTSEEING, GURUNG HOPES TO SEE A GOOD TENNIS MATCH IF THERE ARE ANY TOURNAMENTS SCHEDULED IN THE AREA AT THAT TIME.

4. GIVEN GURUNG'S CONNECTION WITH MOUNTAINEERING IT OCCURS TO US THAT IF THERE IS A LOS ANGELES BRANCH OF SIERRA CLUB OR AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS MAY BE INTERESTED IN ESCORTING GURUNG AROUND. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS RICHARD CLEMENTS WHOSE HOTEL PROJECT FOR NEPAL IS CURRENTLY BEING REVIEWED BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM.

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